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TRIP ROUND THE WORLD
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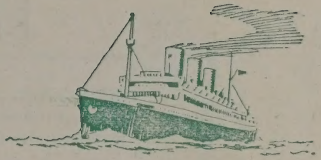
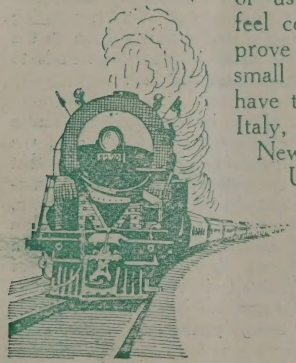
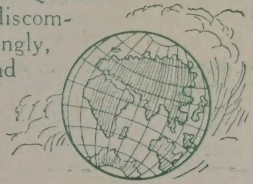
Introduction





WITHIN the pages of this small booklet we endeavour to take you for a rapid trip round the world. Many of us are debarred from visiting foreign countries, but we feel confident that a short description of lands abroad will prove of great interest. We could not attempt within so small a compass to describe each and every country, and we have therefore chosen the following itinerary:—France, Spain, Italy, Malta, Egypt, Africa, India, Malay Peninsula, Australia, New Zealand, South America, Panama, West Indies, United States and Canada, returning from Quebec to Liverpool. No bags to pack, no discomforts to be borne more or less willingly, just settle down in your chair, and come with us on our *Trip Round the World.*



FRANCE

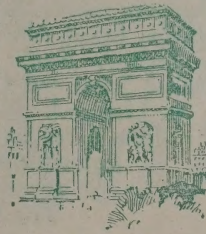
EIFFEL TOWER · PARIS

FRANCE can be termed our next-door neighbour, being but 20 miles distant from Dover, the main cross-channel port for Calais. Other services run from Boulogne, while a regular air service from Croydon to Le Bourget brings Paris within a few hours' journey.

Paris is, naturally, the Mecca of all persons visiting France, and has earned for itself the title "The Gay City," one of the finest on the Continent, containing many beautiful examples of Gothic and Renaissance architecture. A feature of the layout of the city is the fact that all the large boulevards, or avenues, radiate from a central point, like the spokes of a wheel, the hub being a space, in the centre of which is situated the famous Arc de Triomphe.

Paris, and incidentally every French city and town, abounds in cafés, which are to the Frenchman the equivalent of our clubs. It is here that he meets his friends, or very often transacts his business, seated at a table on the pavement—a feature of these cafés.

A visitor would be struck by the fact that the traffic in the streets of Paris is the reverse of our own, the rule of the road being, keep to the right. It is interesting to note here, that the railways of France, contrary to the national custom, run on the same side of the track as our own, that is, on the left. The reason for this is that the first railways in France were built by British engineers in 1836, and the same working has been retained. France is well served by railways, nearly all of them radiating from Paris. It is possible, and this is a boon to the traveller, to traverse the whole distance from Paris to the Mediterranean coast without changing.



ARC DE TRIOMPHE · PARIS

Paris is situated in the centre of a great agricultural area, the climate being very similar to that of south-east England. Consequently, the same crops are grown, and in the wetter districts cattle are reared, the French peasant being a great farmer. The district of Brittany is wholly given to cattle rearing, and is rather hilly, the coast being particularly inhospitable,

receiving the full force of the Atlantic elements. The residents round the coast of this region are practically all fishermen, and are a very hardy race.

France is noted for its wine production, in fact, the country produces about one-third of the world's supply of wine. The district north and east of Paris, and called the Champagne district, has a climate warm enough for the growth of a special kind of small vine. The chief wine producing area, however, is round Bordeaux, the climate here being warmer, and the vine flourishes.

Journeying through France, one is struck by the number of canals to be seen. All the navigable rivers are joined by these canals, and as most of the country is of a flat nature, it makes the use of canals more widespread, as there is little or no necessity for locks. It is possible to travel from the Mediterranean Sea to the English Channel entirely by water.

The French language, as in most large countries, has many dialects, or "patois," so that the difference in pronunciation between the extreme north and the south gives one the impression of an entirely different language.

In France, the main roads or, as they are called, "national roads," cover a distance of 25,000 miles.

VINEYARDS

Travelling further south in the Rhone Valley, we meet the largest silk centre of Europe, the central spot being Lyons. Here will be seen the mulberry tree flourishing, but much of the raw silk is now imported from the East.

Monte Carlo CASINO

In the extreme south we find that the people are of the Latin type. Marseilles is the chief French port on the Mediterranean, and is the centre of an industrial area, manufacturing wine, oil, soap, candles, etc. Shipbuilding and allied industries are also important trades of the district.

To the east of Marseilles lies the strip of coast called the Riviera, a name familiar to everyone, with its central town of Nice and the equally famous Monte Carlo.

To the visitor, the French breakfast is hardly what we would call satisfying, for the Frenchman does not have ham or bacon, and toast and marmalade as we do. He has fresh crisp rolls and coffee. The Frenchman is not a great meat-eater, and he has a great deal of his food cooked in butter or oil. It may be mentioned that the French have over three hundred ways of cooking eggs.

A last word on sport. The French indulge in most of the sports played by us, such as football, tennis, hockey, horse-racing, of which there are world-famous meetings.

SPAIN

SPANISH COURTYARD

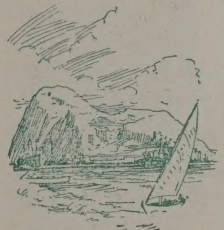
THE land of warmth and sunshine, of which the capital is Madrid, situated in the centre of the country, an eminently suitable spot for government. Spain is one of the countries of the Old World, and has a history thousands of years old. Compared with modern ideas, however, the country is comparatively undeveloped.

It was once the centre of a great empire, and held a tremendous sway over the conditions in Europe.

Regarding the physical features of the country, it can be said that Spain is isolated from the rest of Europe by the high range of mountains in the north, called the Pyrenees. These form a natural frontier between Spain and France. The whole centre of the Spanish peninsula is occupied by what is called the Meseta, a high plateau, and the coastal margin is the only low-lying area.

The first name that strikes one when Spain is mentioned is Gibraltar, and in our eyes, it is certainly the most important.

Gibraltar is the usual port of disembarkation, and the sight of the "Rock" is familiar to many. Towering above the town, it makes a wonderful landmark and an unsurpassed natural fortress, commanding the Straits as no other fortress could. The Rock itself is honeycombed with galleries in which are placed guns in commanding positions, overlooking the town and Straits through embrasures in the cliff sides. This possession was captured by us in 1704, and has been retained since. The town of Gibraltar itself is certainly cosmopolitan, all Mediterranean nationalities being represented there. The native salesman is a wily person, and it can be assumed that anything bought at what seems a bargain price, unless vouched for by an expert, is spurious. Ships entering the port are besieged by boatloads of natives selling fruit, the bright colours making a wonderful picture against the deep blue of the water.



GIBRALTAR.

Railway travel in Spain is rather difficult as the railway communications are not very

advanced. There are however, hundreds of miles of perfect roads, making road travel very enjoyable, except in one or two cases where the dust is very disturbing. The country is connected with France by railways passing round the eastern and western ends of the Pyrenees.

Growing in the district round Gibraltar will be seen cork trees, many looking very peculiar on account of having been stripped. This cork industry is carried on at Seville, and cork is exported from there. When the trees are fifteen to twenty years old the first stripping of the outer bark takes place. The bark is stripped every eight or ten years, the quality of the bark improving each time. The cork oak thrives for 150 years and upwards, so that many " crops " can be obtained from each tree.

A large area round San Fernando and Cadiz is perfectly flat and intersected by canals which in turn feed innumerable dykes. All over this area can be seen white mounds which are heaps of salt. The canals are connected with the sea, and so they and the dykes are filled with the tide. In May the water is kept in the dykes at a depth of about 3 feet, and the sun is so strong that in 10 days the water has evaporated, leaving a layer of salt at the bottom of the dyke 2 ins. thick.

MOORISH PALACE · SEVILLE

The intense heat mentioned in the preceding paragraph is noticeable all over Spain, while on the high plateau the nights are extremely cold.

BULL FIGHT

Spain is a country of cathedrals and churches, many of which are very old. Seville has the largest Gothic cathedral in the world.

Half-way up the eastern coast we come to Valencia, which is the capital of this part of Spain. This district is noted for the export of raisins, or dried grapes, and wine, which form a large part of the export trade. The climate and conditions being eminently suitable for the growing of vines. At Valencia a favourite sport is motor racing, but this has not ousted the great national sport of bull-fighting. Valencia has the largest bull-ring in all Spain. The populace also enjoys tennis, football, and horse-racing.

The northern part of Spain is the richest and most fertile, and the most densely populated, as the district yields coal and iron ore which it exports.

Ranging over the regions of the Meseta are found large numbers of sheep, the wool being of very fine texture. These are the merino sheep, and at one time were only found in this region, but they are now bred in Australia.

ITALY

COLOSSEUM ROME

THIS famous country, jutting out from Europe into the Mediterranean like a man's leg, has a history stretching back for thousands of years, and its capital, Rome, was in the days of the Caesars the centre of the Old World.

Under the capable direction of Signor Mussolini, the dictator, Italy is now taking her place among the most progressive nations.

As a country for sightseers, Italy is almost without equal, crowding into its small size such diverse scenes as the awe-inspiring Alps at the north and the warm, sun-drenched towns of the south, nestling on the shores of the deep blue waters of the Mediterranean. Turin, the chief centre of the Piedmont district, nestles in a valley surrounded by a very amphitheatre of mountains, whose snow-capped summits sparkle in the sun. This old town, known in the days of the Romans as Augusta Taurinorum, is one of the largest and busiest in Italy. Many towns are situated in the valleys, but the chief attraction is the Alps, and the Alpine valleys. Snow-capped peaks, glaciers and mountain torrents make this district a paradise for lovers of mountain scenery.

Most people have heard of the Italian Lakes, and these beautiful gems, in a setting of brilliant colour, are famous for their extreme beauty. Although situated in the north, it is a surprise to find growing here palms, oleanders, laurels and orange trees. The largest lakes are Maggiore, Como and Garda.

Everywhere in Italy one meets happiness, the Italians being one of the most light-hearted races in the world. Italy can be called the home of singing.

BRIDGE of SIGHS · VENICE

Most of the cities and large towns have their opera houses, the most famous of which is La Scala at Milan. This city has the largest Gothic Cathedral in Italy, with thousands of small spires, each one surmounted by a statue.

We next come to Venice, the Queen of the Adriatic, a city of great antiquity, built on a lagoon. This historic

city, with its streets of water, is one of the sights of the world. Stately palaces rise up majestically from the canals, along which glide the well-known gondolas. Here we find the famous Church of St. Mark, on the Piazza, and the winged lions of Venice. Here also we find the equally famous Bridge of Sighs, so called because in the days of the all-powerful Dukes, prisoners were taken over this bridge to the dungeons to lie forgotten in the darkness until death mercifully ended their sufferings.

Florence contains many fine churches and buildings of the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, while the Pitti Palace contains one of the most valuable picture galleries in the world. Italy was the home of many of the most famous artists of the Middle Ages.

Rome—capital of the Old World and capital of the New Italy. This city is one of the richest in antiquities in the world. Everyone knows the celebrated Colosseum, where the ancient Romans witnessed combats between gladiators. Rome has many fine modern buildings and streets.

BAY OF NAPLES

Proceeding southwards, Naples is reached, an enchanting city with its marvellous bay, with Vesuvius raising its smouldering head in the background. Naples is the mecca of all tourists, and it is certainly one of the most artistic spots to be found. A short distance away we find the excavated Roman cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum. These cities were destroyed by an eruption of Vesuvius, and were buried in lava and dust, lying for centuries until they were uncovered.

VALLETTA (MALTA)

South of Naples are found many other Mediterranean beauty spots, with many also on the island of Sicily, where Mount Etna, an active volcano is situated.

MALTA.

Situated in the direct path of the Mediterranean steam-ship routes is the small island of Malta. This island has belonged to the British since 1814, and is a rather barren spot, due to the hot, dry wind from the Sahara. The land is therefore very carefully cultivated by terracing and irrigation where possible, but the products grown are not sufficient for the needs of the 250,000 inhabitants, so much is imported.

There are many fine examples of ruined buildings showing early occupation, and the island's name is connected with the Knights of St. John, whose emblem is a Maltese Cross. The island is now used as a British naval base, the town of Valletta having a very fine harbour.

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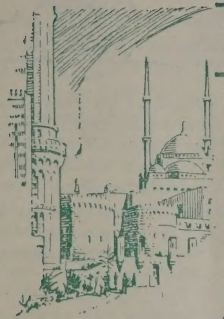
DIGESTS LIKE NATURE DIGESTS

EGYPT



THE CITADEL, CAIRO

EGYPT is one of the oldest countries of the world, and was, thousands of years ago, a country in which science and learning had reached an extremely high standard. Like all the old empires, however, it decayed, and all that is left of the old dynasties are monuments which are still, to us, a source of wonder.

The land itself, were it not for the river Nile, would be barren and unproductive, although irrigation is now used extensively. This condition applies only to the basin of the Nile, for this basin is about ten miles wide, and bounded on each side by cliffs and high land. In the old days, the Nile annually overflowed its banks, and flooded the surrounding land, retiring and leaving a layer of silt which made the soil extremely fertile.

The capital and largest town in Egypt is Cairo, situated at the head of the delta at the mouth of the Nile, a very convenient position for governing the country. The principal port is Alexandria.

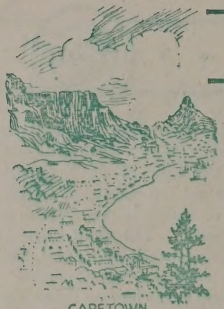
It is here that one lands, and it is found to be a modern town, but with a cosmopolitan population. One naturally travels from here to Cairo, the base of all Egyptian tourists. Camels and donkeys are the means of travel.

Nine-tenths of the exports of Egypt is raw cotton, a high-class cotton much in demand. The plant bears a yellow flower with a centre which expands into a pod, the pod, at maturity, bursting and yielding a tuft of cotton.

No visitor to Egypt misses a trip to the famous Pyramids at Gizeh, near Cairo. These massive tombs are marvels of building feats, the largest, built by Cheops, earlier than 3,000 B.C., took twenty years to build, and employed 100,000 men the whole time. Its height is 480 feet and the base measures 764 feet along each side. It is supposed that the pyramids were originally encased in marble blocks, but no trace of these now remain. The Sphinx, an enormous sculptured figure, typifies the riddle of the universe.

THE PYRAMIDS & SPHINX

AFRICA



CAPETOWN

A VAST Continent, in area 11,000,000 square miles — one-seventh of which forms British South Africa.

The line of the equator passes across the centre of the continent, and as may be expected, a vast central area is occupied by impenetrable forest and jungle, of which only a little has been explored. Here is the home of the fierce gorilla and the most uncivilised of natives, the bushmen and pygmies. Vast sources of wealth are to be found in this area, but the conditions will not allow of their being tapped.

It is remarkable, however, and it speaks worlds for the courage of pioneers of British and other nationalities, that many large areas in this vast land are now given over to agriculture, and access from various points to others are free from danger, both from wild beasts and uncivilised natives. Names such as Stanley, Livingstone and Cecil Rhodes make us swell with pride to think that these men faced unknown dangers with complete confidence and with no thought of glory.

Our first landing place is, naturally, Cape Town, the chief port and the seat of government for South Africa. This fine harbour, like Gibraltar, forms an impressive sight nestling on the shores of Table Bay, with the Table Mountain reaching high in the background.

The climate of South Africa is such that many fruits peculiar to Mediterranean regions can be grown, and we are all familiar with oranges and tobacco from this country, to name but two of the many products exported.

An aerial railway ascends the Table Mountain.

Practically the whole of the southern part of Africa produces cattle, as it is really a vast plateau with large areas of grassland, broken only by the Kalahari Desert.

OSTRICH FARM

The native population found in South Africa is now, happily, sufficiently civilised to be trusted, and the majority are good workers. It is noticeable, however, that the natives in the extreme south are few in number. By natives is meant negroes, the true inhabitants of the country, and perhaps a few words about the

different types might prove interesting. South of the great Sahara Desert the people are all true negroes with black skins and woolly hair. North of this desert are the Arabian and Egyptian types, closely related to the people of Southern Europe. In some parts, as in the Congo and round the fringes of the great forests, are found the most primitive branches, the bushmen and pygmies. These puny people, persecuted by stronger foes, were forced to flee and make their homes in some place where they would be undisturbed, and so are cut off from all communication, resulting in their being still in such a primitive state. Many of these backward tribes wear no article of clothing whatever, and still use bows and arrows for hunting. The natives of Northern Rhodesia are still in the Stone Age, and live in caves. Most of the other tribes have progressed and each tribe is governed by its own headman who dispenses the law. The average African negro is a peaceable creature, and amenable to discipline, but he is easily led, and when excited to a frenzied pitch, is apt to break loose or run amok.

JOHANNESBURG

Until recently, many of the natives were cannibals, and our Commissioners have had untold trouble in stamping out this reprehensible practice. It says a great deal for the courage of some of the tribes that they will hunt the fiercest wild animals such as lions armed only with spears. Under the influence of the white man, the native witch-doctor is rapidly loosing his hold over the superstitious native. The native women are the workers, for they build the huts and till the ground, the men spending their time hunting.

LION

Africa, as is known to everybody, abounds in game of all descriptions, but so many species were being extinguished that the Government made large areas in Kenya and Tanganyika into "game reservations," where no one is allowed to hunt unless having a special permit. Here one can see the ungainly giraffe, whose neck has grown so long as to enable him to reach the tops of the trees upon which he browses; various types of gazelle, zebra, antelopes, water buck, gnus—which look like a cross between a horse and a cow—hippopotami snorting in the rivers, the rhinoceros—which is very short-sighted, but will charge anything—buffaloes, which are very fierce, and we must not forget the impalla—tiny deer only 2 or 3 feet high—but like a bundle of springs. These tiny animals have the faculty of jumping high into the air,

GOLD COAST

as high as a dozen feet, and landing as far away. Last, but not least, we must mention the elephant and the lion. Great inroads were made into the herds of elephants solely on account of the ivory, until the Government restricted the shooting of these animals to those possessing a government licence. The lion is the aim of every hunter who travels in the lion country for sport.

Travel in Africa is, as is natural with so large a country, extremely difficult once the bounds of civilisation are passed. There are several fine railways in South Africa, and a railway is now in course of construction which will eventually link up Cape Town with Cairo in Egypt.

Most people know of the famous diamond mines at Kimberley and Pretoria. These places yield more diamonds than any other place in the world. The largest diamond ever found was discovered near Pretoria, in 1905, and was presented to the King. It weighs 3,030 carats and is valued at £15,000,000. Gold is also found in South Africa in large quantities, while one of the most usual sights is ostrich farming, an extensive occupation. From the more central regions we obtain rubber in vast quantities, and ivory.

The Gold Coast is one of our most valuable possessions, and is comparatively safe to live in. It is from this district that we get gold, rubber, cotton, mahogany, and palm kernels, the last named of which we use in England in the manufacture of soap, the kernels being crushed to get the oil.

The Sahara desert is a non-productive region of sand, with here and there an oasis. The only inhabitants are tribes of nomadic Arabs, but there are caravan routes by which Arab traders travel with their goods loaded on camels, the only animal which can be used, on account of its ability to travel long distances without water, and its large flat feet which prevent it from sinking in the sand.

Northern Africa is composed of Morocco, Algeria, and Tunis, all with Mahommedan populations. Here one meets the dust and dirt inseparable from the hot countries, and the babel of many tongues. This district is the main date-growing centre of the hot regions.

It is in the hinterland of this area that the well-known Foreign Legion patrols the desert and helps to keep in subjection the marauding bands of Arabs who live by pouncing on helpless caravans and by raiding villages.

MOROCCO

INDIA

A STATE PROCESSION

THIS vast country, shaped like an inverted triangle with the apex jutting out into the Indian Ocean, is one of our oldest possessions. In the days when our hardy sea pioneers were sailing in search of new lands, India was, and had been for generations, an Empire whose rulers were exceedingly learned. These emperors possessed enormous wealth, and traded in precious stones, silks, finery, and spices. So it was the aim of most European nations to capture the trade of the Indies, and colonies were formed, descendants of the Portuguese being found in India even now.

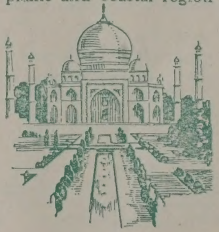
India is cut off from her neighbours on land by a natural boundary, the range of lofty mountains called the Himalayas, the highest peak of which is Mount Everest, incidentally the highest in the world.

India is one of the most fertile countries of the world, and is certainly the most thickly populated, her 320,000,000 inhabitants forming one-fifth of the world's total population. Of these people, who are all divided into different "castes," 53,000,000 are "untouchables" or outcasts.

There are more languages spoken in India than in any other country, 80 in all.

Each native State is ruled by a Maharajah or Rajah, advised by a political officer appointed by the Government of India. Thus it naturally follows that during the last hundred years, while under the influence of British rule, India has progressed from a long history of strife and misery, towards peace and prosperity.

The country itself lies north of the equator, and the plains and coastal region of the south are always warm or hot. In January the north of India is very cold, but in July it is extremely hot. Nearly the whole of India south of the Ganges and Indus plains is composed of plateaux, the eastern and western edges of which rise up to the Eastern and Western Ghats. From this it will be seen that during the period of the "Monsoon" or south-west wind, from June



TAJ MAHAL, AGRA

to October, heavy rain falls, particularly on the west coast. As a result we find in many of the districts in which the rains are heavy, dense jungle and tropical growth. We find in these forests the wild animals of India, particularly the tiger and the elephant, the latter being caught and trained to pile logs, as in Burma.

State elephants of the native princes are decorated and fitted with beautiful trappings richly covered with gold and precious stones. Wild buffaloes are found, and numerous species of poisonous snakes, which cause many deaths each year.

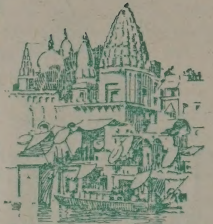
A noticeable sight in most towns and villages is the number of cows lying on the pavements unmolested, for to the Hindu the cow is sacred, and he will not eat beef.

Bombay, the great port on the west coast, has a fine natural harbour, and is built on an island. The other great ports of India are Calcutta, Karachi, Rangoon and Madras. These have fine harbours and large modern buildings, and are the starting points of railways linking them with the larger inland cities.

GATEWAY OF INDIA · BOMBAY

Bombay is famous for its cotton mills, the raw cotton being grown on the plateau.

Calcutta is the commercial capital, but the real capital is Delhi, round which have been waged many wars. Here also are found cotton mills. Karachi is the port for the export of the wheat grown in the Punjab.



BENARES The GOLDEN TEMPLE

Many fine old cities and towns are found in India, with many beautifully carved temples. One of the great cities of the Moghul Empire is Agra, famous for the Taj Mahal, a wonderful edifice built as a monument to a queen. This beautiful building is one of the sights of the world.

Lucknow is known to all for the famous siege in 1857.

Benares, the old seat of learning, is the most sacred city of the Hindus, and thousands come here to bathe in the sacred waters of Mother Ganges. Sacred monkeys live in the temples of Benares, being fed by the priests.

The people of India, in common with most eastern people, exist chiefly on rice, and the valley of the Ganges is the main region in which it is grown.

India has long been famous for its beautiful silks, Bengal being the chief silk-producing province. Kashmir is famous for its shawls and rugs.

A great quantity of tea comes from Assam and Ceylon.

MALAY PENINSULA

THE Malay Peninsula is a truly tropical country with high mountains and hilly plateaux covering the centre. The only low-lying district is round the coast.

Dense forests clothe the slopes and higher grounds, and the scene when approaching the peninsula is a peculiar one, the land being covered with dark green vegetation, with here and there a splash of brilliant green where the paddy fields or rice fields show, and white and red upturned earth of tin mines, which produce more than one-third of the world's supply of tin.

Large plantations are under cultivation with rubber trees, and Malay produces more than half the supply of rubber in the world.

MALAY TEMPLE BANGKOK

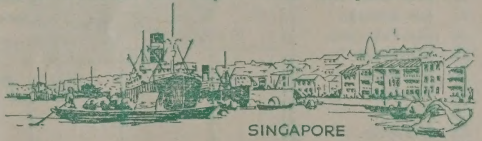
The Malay villagers cultivate small plots of land, and breed cattle, the latter being of a very poor quality.

Many caves are to be found in the limestone hills, and these are used as homes by the aborigines. Around Kinta the Chinese use them as temples.

The largest town in the Malay States is Singapore, the seat of government of the Straits Settlements, founded in 1819, and it has a fine harbour and modern buildings. The railway runs from here to Malacca, Kuala Lumpur, Penang, and on to Bangkok, with a branch just before Malacca into the central region. Malacca, once a flourishing port, is now little used.

The coconut palm grows abundantly in Malay, and the dried kernel, or as it is called, copra, has been an important article of export since 1870. This palm provides the natives with drink, shoes, and building material, and can almost be termed a universal provider.

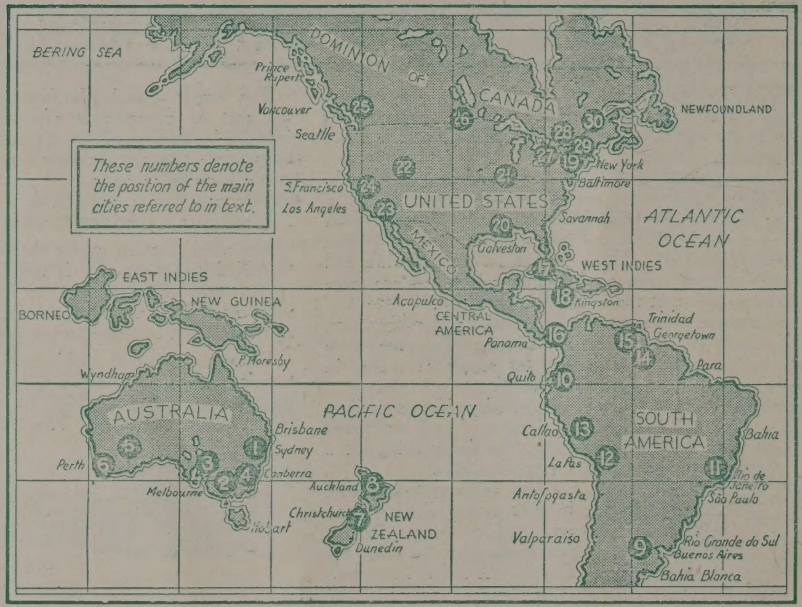
Malay has a style of Architecture all its own, and the temples have unusual tapering spires. The homes in the villages are usually huddled together on the banks of a river, and are very insecure and primitive.



SINGAPORE

MAP SHOWING PLACES OF INTEREST

1. Sydney.
2. Melbourne.
3. Adelaide.
4. Canberra.
5. Kalgoorlie.
6. Perth.
7. Christchurch.
8. Auckland.
9. Buenos Aires.
10. Quito.
11. Rio de Janeiro.
12. La Paz.
13. Lima.
14. Georgetown.
15. Trinidad.
16. Panama.
17. Havana.
18. Kingston.
19. New York.
20. New Orleans.
21. Chicago.
22. Salt Lake City.
23. Los Angeles.
24 San Francisco.
25. Vancouver.
26. Winnipeg.
27. Toronto.
28. Ottawa.
29. Montreal.
30 Quebec



REFERRED TO IN THIS BOOKLET

1. Paris.
2. Lyons.
3. Marseilles.
4. Madrid.
5. Seville.
6. Valencia.
7. Gibraltar.
8. Turin.
9. Venice.
10. Rome.
11. Naples.
12. Cairo.
13. Alexandria.
14. Gizeh.
15. Cape Town.
16. Johannesburg
17. Kimberley.
18. Accra.
19. Morocco.
20. Bombay.
21. Calcutta.
22. Karachi
23. Rangoon.
24. Madras.
25. Delhi.
26. Agra.
27. Lucknow.
28. Benares.
29. Singapore
30. Bangkok.

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AUSTRALIA

SYDNEY HARBOUR BRIDGE

THIS huge island is by far the smallest of the continents of the world, yet it has an area of 3,000,000 square miles. It is so situated that the northern half lies in the Tropics, while the southern half is in the southern temperate zone. Consequently, Australia has great differences in temperature and climate.

Australia was discovered about 300 years ago by Europeans, and was called New Holland. In 1770, however, Captain Cook formally took possession of the continent for Britain. At first, Australia was only used as a place for deporting convicts, a convict settlement being formed there, but it was gradually colonised by pioneers who settled in the more fertile spots round the eastern coast.

When first discovered, Australia was inhabited by wild natives or aborigines, who were so uncivilised that they still used stone weapons. The number, however, was very small, and they have decreased rapidly so that only a very few now remain to the north-west and north, and on the northern fringe of the desert. They are nomadic, and seldom settle in one place for long. A curious form of ornamentation is practised among the men, the ornamentation itself being performed by the women. Long incisions are made in the skin on such places as the upper part of the back, the top of the arms, and the calves of the legs, any sharp instrument being used, usually a shell. Earth of a certain kind is then rubbed into the cuts, and when healed it forms a peculiar scar like a highly raised ridge or roll, and is quite soft to the touch. As a general rule, no clothing is worn by these people, and their life is the most primitive. It can be said that Australia is wholly peopled by whites.

MODERN SYDNEY

All the main cities of Australia are on the eastern and southern coasts, with only Perth of any great importance on the west coast and Port Darwin at the north.

Until 1901 the States of Australia were quite separate, and each State built its own railways. This would have been quite a good thing had

it not been that different gauges were used, so that it is now impossible to travel from one State to another without changing trains. Regarding travel in the interior, it is rather startling to see strings of camels laden with goods making their way through the desert regions.

Sydney is the largest city in Australia having more than 1,000,000 inhabitants, and Melbourne ranks next with rather less. These cities are connected by rail with the other large towns such as Adelaide, Brisbane, Newcastle, Canberra, and as far away as Perth, with Kalgoorlie on this last route. Kalgoorlie, a desert town, owes its being to the fact that gold was found in this district, and a great gold rush commenced. Gold is still mined there, but only in very fair quantities.

The visitor to Australia will be struck by the new bridge lately completed and opened at Sydney, a wonderful feat of engineering, and one of the finest bridges in the world.

UP COUNTRY

Australia has a long chain of mountains running down the eastern side, to the west of which is a large area of low-lying or basin-like land. Westward from this is the great plateau. As most people know, Australia is a great wool-producing country, and sheep are reared over the whole of the eastern area including the basin region. This basin area is naturally dry, so the land has been irrigated by the use of artesian wells. These are only possible where there is a basin, as the hard rocks many feet down act as a saucer in which the water collects. A well is bored in the centre of a hollow, and the water either rises or is pumped to the surface. This makes it possible to grow grass over wide areas which would be otherwise unproductive. The eastern coastal plains and slopes are well-watered by rain, and so the grass is much more luxuriant, enabling cattle to be reared in large quantities.

CANBERRA

The sheep-rearing farms of Australia are vast areas, some of them hundreds of acres in extent, and all fenced off. It is, therefore, a difficult job to keep these fences in repair, as a breach would not only allow the sheep to stray, but would enable the dingoes, or wild dogs, to wreak terrible havoc among the sheep. As a consequence the life of a sheep farmer is one of constant hard work, and very little leisure, as he cannot call on his next-door neighbour when he wishes; his nearest neighbour might be anything up to 50 miles away. His really busy time arrives when the sheep are sheared, this usually being

done by machinery. The wool must be packed and sent to the nearest port for shipment.

Wheat is grown extensively and exported, as are meat, skins, and butter. It is rather significant that a large proportion of Australia's imports are manufactured articles, as the rich deposits of iron ore are far from the coalfields, and the coal mined at Newcastle, near Sydney, can be loaded into ships almost direct from the mines.

Regarding animals, apart from the dingo, the only others worthy of mention are the kangaroo, which carries its young in a pouch; the emu, a similar bird to the ostrich; the duck-billed platypus, a queer animal with a beak like a duck and short feet used for swimming, and peculiar in that it lays eggs; and the rabbit. This last-named, like the camel mentioned previously, was originally imported, and has multiplied to such an extent that serious damage is done by it.

TYPICAL LANDSCAPE

A feature of Australian vegetation is the gum tree or "eucalyptus," which is an evergreen, and grows wherever trees can grow. These trees grow to an enormous height and thickness in the wetter parts, and their wood is valuable as it is very hard, and will not be eaten by white ants. A very small eucalyptus bush is found in the drier regions.

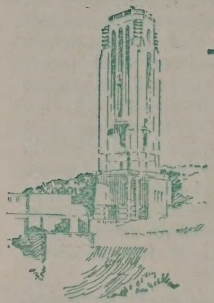
PERTH. WEST AUSTRALIA

A glance at the map will show that running along the north-eastern coast is the Great Barrier Reef, an enormously long coral reef which at low tide is uncovered and presents a marvellous sight. It is here that are sometimes found giant clams, a species of shell-fish, as big as five or six feet across, with sufficient strength to break a person's leg, should he be unfortunate enough to be trapped by one of these monsters.

Australia, being a new country, is rapidly developing, and as most of the white population are British, it is natural that they should be in close touch with Great Britain, the mother country. As proof of this the Commonwealth have preferential tariffs by which goods sent from the United Kingdom are taxed less than those from other countries.

The colonial is a great sportsman, and to further cement the bonds existing between us and them, we have the regular series of Test Matches which arouse the enthusiasm of cricket lovers in both countries. Horse-racing is also a favourite sport among the Australians.

NEW ZEALAND



WAR MEMORIAL · WELLINGTON

ALTHOUGH not quite as large in area as the British Isles, New Zealand is one of the most noted countries in the world for the production of meat and wool.

New Zealand is composed of two large islands to the east of Australia, with a chain of mountains running through each island, and plains on the western and eastern sides of the northern and southern islands.

As heavy rainfall is experienced in the mountain regions, these parts are forested, the Auckland Peninsula abounding in the Kauri pine, from which is obtained a gum used in the manufacture of varnish.

In a large central area in the north island are found several isolated volcanoes. The mountains in the southern island are not volcanic, and several are perpetually capped with snow.

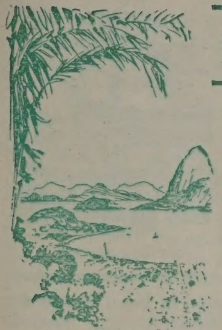
New Zealand can be termed wholly agricultural, as mining is not carried on to any extent. One large area in the southern island is known to everyone, the Canterbury plains. Here are reared the enormous herds of sheep, and the meat is exported in a frozen condition, and known to us as Canterbury lamb and mutton. The wool obtained from the sheep is also exported in large quantities, and as a good grass is required to rear animals suitable for both meat and wool, much of the grass now grown is of the best English kinds. Butter and cheese are produced comparing in quality more than favourably with the Danish products.

Christchurch is the main town of the southern island, and is a modern town connected by rail with Dunedin and Greymouth, and it is interesting to note that the longest tunnel in the British Empire is on this last line, cutting through the Southern Alps. Auckland is the main town of the northern island.

SHEEP REARING

A last word about the natives. Strictly speaking the Maori, as they are called, are not natives of New Zealand, having migrated to the islands a long time ago. Until 1870 they were frequently at arms against the Government, but are now much more civilised.

SOUTH AMERICA



RIO HARBOUR

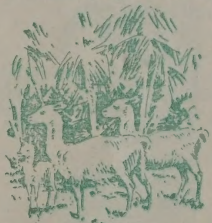
THIS country is the fourth in size of the land masses of the world and stretches from the northern hemisphere almost to the Antarctic.

In 1498, Columbus landed at the Orinoco River, and later the Spanish and Portuguese began to settle in South America. The colonies founded by these early settlers have developed into the Republics of which the country is now composed.

Before the Spanish invasion, a highly civilised race lived in various parts of South America, called the Incas, and many wonderful remains of temples and monuments are still to be seen, testifying to the advanced knowledge of these people. They died out, however, and there now remain only the South American Indians, the true natives of the country.

The Argentine is perhaps the best known State in South America, and is the district containing the Pampas—the equivalent of the North American prairies. Here are reared the vast herds of cattle and sheep—in the year 1930 over 32,000,000 head of cattle being recorded. Horses are also bred here, and these are a fine strain. As can be imagined, the Pampas are split up into ranches, each one being fenced at tremendous expense. In this State and in the States of Paraguay and Uruguay, we find the familiar "gaucho," or cowboy—practically born in the saddle and second to none in the use of the lasso. These gauchos are of mixed Spanish and Indian descent.

Buenos Aires, the capital of the Argentine, is a fine modern city, with many beautiful buildings, mostly new. Situated at the mouth of the La Plata river, which is navigable for hundreds of miles, the city is in a fine position.



LLAMAS

In most parts of South America, the meals are taken as in Spain—a light breakfast, usually coffee or tea with rolls and butter, lunch between 11 and 1 o'clock, and dinner between 6 and 9. In the warmer parts the whole populace take their afternoon siesta, as no work can be done.

Spanish is the universal

language, although Brazil is an exception, for here Portuguese is spoken.

Consequent upon the wise government of the different States, and the increase of white settlers, the question of travel in South America is not so difficult as might be expected. In the developed parts it is possible to travel in the utmost comfort and safety—steamers, trains and aeroplanes being of the most luxurious kind—with well organised services along the routes, and first-class hotels in all the principal cities.

South America has a chain of mountains running from north to south, down the western side of the continent, and they form a natural barrier, some of the peaks being over 20,000 feet high.

Quito, a town in the State of Ecuador, is right on the equator, yet is so high that the climate is temperate. Cayambe and Cotopaxi are both volcanoes, while other peaks are old volcanoes now extinct.

SCENE ON THE AMAZON

Brazil, the largest State in South America, is a very rich State, but these riches are difficult to obtain, as a large area is covered with a dense tropical forest or selva. There are, however, several industrial districts in this State, and coal and iron are mined. Until the opening of the Kimberley mines in South Africa, Brazil was the largest producer of diamonds in the world. The greatest crop is coffee, while cacao (from which we get cocoa), tobacco, rubber, cotton and rice are also grown in quantities.

CATTLE & GAUCHO

In Brazil is found an animal from which we obtain the nutria skin so much used in making fur coats and collars.

Many first-class roads are found in Brazil, but in the enormous district round the River Amazon, travel is impossible except by the river. The dense forest reaches down to the edge of the river, the trees being intertwined with climbing plants and forming a practically impenetrable barrier. Here dwell the most primitive of natives, living in small clearings on the river bank. These natives are practically naked, and still use dug-out canoes. In this region is found the anaconda, a fierce snake of a tremendous size. This snake usually lies in the water, for which purpose its eyes are set right on the top of its head.

The capital of Brazil, Rio de Janeiro, is considered the finest city in the world, containing palatial buildings, and is in a most beautiful setting.

The River Amazon is the largest in the world, and rises in the Andes, while it is navigable for hundreds of miles, large steamers being able to penetrate into the heart of the country.

La Paz, the capital of Bolivia, is probably the highest capital in the world, being 12,000 feet above sea level, and here in this State are seen many Indians who are descendants of the Incas. Here also, as in other mountainous States, are found the well-known llamas, which are used as beasts of burden. The wool of the llama is also used, the animals being shorn at intervals of two to five years. The alpaca, however, a member of the same family as the llama, is reared extensively for the wool alone. The chinchilla is found in Brazil, the fur, like that of the nutria, being exported for the manufacture of coats.

TUNGURAHUA VOLCANO ANDES

Chile is mainly noted for the production of nitrate of soda, the country not lending itself to more than a very little cattle and sheep breeding.

Peru, with its chief port of Callao, is very rich in minerals. Here are the main silver mines of South America. At Lima, bull-fighting is indulged in all the year round.

Our British possession in South America is Guiana. The bulk of the population is composed of East Indians, who work on the sugar estates, the coffee and cocoa plantations and the rice fields.

PANAMA CANAL

Trinidad, a small island off the coast of Venezuela, is also a British possession, and is noted for its asphalt, found in natural asphalt lakes, being cut from the edges as it hardens.

The Republic of Panama occupies the narrowest part of the strip of land between North and South America.

The Frenchman, de Lesseps, who built the Suez Canal, tried to build a canal across Panama but failed. In 1904 the United States bought a strip of land 10 miles wide from Panama, and at a cost of £100,000,000, built the present canal, completing it in 1914. This canal belongs to the U.S.A., but vessels of all nations can use it. About 36 miles long, it has a series of locks at either end to raise the boats sufficiently to enable them to enter the higher portion of the canal.

Panama itself has a warm climate and tropical fruits and plants grow in abundance. Maize, coconuts, coffee, bananas, and oranges are the main crops, while pearl fishing is carried on round the Pacific Coast.

WEST INDIES

ALONG OCHO RIOS

THE name of this group of islands is rather interesting. They were discovered by Columbus when he was attempting to find a new route to India, or as it was called in those days, the Indies. He thought he had discovered a part of India, and from this they came to be called the West Indies. They consist of a group of four large islands and a number of small ones, and nearly the whole of the group lies within the tropics. As a consequence they enjoy tropical weather, although at times they are visited by fearful typhoons which wreak havoc with the houses and crops, many lives being lost.

Cuba is a republic which has been developed by the United States to such an extent that it now produces one-third of the world's supply of cane sugar. Another famous export is tobacco, which is distributed from the capital and principal port, Havana. Everyone knows or has heard of Havana cigars, and it is here that they are rolled from the selected leaf of the tobacco plant. Cotton is also grown here.

Porto Rico belongs to the U.S.A. and produces cane sugar, tobacco and coffee.

Jamaica is to us the best known of the islands of the West Indies, and is the most densely populated, there being many white settlers there with plantations of sugar cane and bananas.

The sugar cane is cut down, the leaves stripped, and the cane is taken to a mill, where it is crushed, the juice extracted being crystallised to form sugar.

The bananas are plucked in large bunches, before ripe. These are taken to the ships which are specially fitted out with large cooling chambers.

KINGSTON

The bunches of fruit are hung in these rooms and an even temperature is maintained, so that the bananas are just ripe by the time they reach their destination.

The native workers are mostly negroes and negresses, who, like the East Indians in British Guiana, favour brightly-coloured clothes.

U·S·A

STATUE of LIBERTY

THE United States of America is a great republic, founded by the "Declaration of Independence," on July 4th, 1776, when all the American colonies of Great Britain were declared independent by the American Congress. This date is still celebrated in America.

The large continent is teeming with wealth, in the form of minerals and pasture land and various products for which there is a demand.

Travelling from east to west we meet several different kinds of country. The east coast consists of the New England region, so called because the first colonists settled here and carried on farming in the valleys and lowlands. It is still a region of mixed farming similar to the British Isles, but some industries have sprung up as a result of the trades carried on by the colonists. Nearly two-thirds of the cotton goods of the U.S.A. are made in this district. The great port of Boston is in this region.

A little further south we come to America's greatest city, New York, built on a promontory at the mouth of the river Hudson, and guarded by the famous Statue of Liberty at the mouth of the harbour. With the growth of the city it was found impossible to expand laterally, so the buildings grew upwards, resulting in the well-known "skyscrapers." These buildings tower to such tremendous heights that it has been found necessary to build them in steps, to allow as much light and air as possible to reach the streets. At the harbour of New York can be seen ships of every nation, for from here radiate all the main routes across the American continent.

New York, although situated further south than the British Isles, suffers from a more changeable climate, being very hot in summer, while having severe winters.

WATER FRONT - NEW YORK

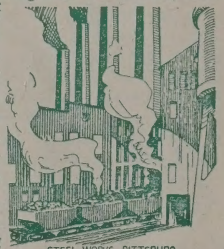
To the south and stretching westwards as far as the centre of the continent is the great cotton growing area, the States of Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas and parts of Oklahoma and Texas. This

vast area produces more than half the world's supply of raw cotton, large numbers of negroes working in the cotton fields. Years ago, the ancestors of these negroes were brought from Africa, as slaves, and received very bad treatment from the planters. Happily, these conditions were exposed, and the slaves were liberated, all the negroes being now free.

In the centre of this area is the Mississippi river, a tremendous river with many tributaries, and flowing through such a low territory that it sometimes overflows its banks, causing considerable damage.

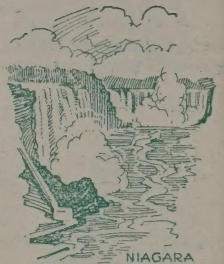
New Orleans is the chief port of this portion of the country, while Galveston is also extensively employed in exporting cotton.

To the north and north-east of the cotton-growing country is the great manufacturing area of America, with the well-known cities of Pittsburg, St. Louis and Chicago as different centres. Vast coalfields stretch under this area, iron ore is found, and over the cities hangs the smoke pall of many smelting works and factories. On the other hand, a great deal of this district grows maize and wheat, and flour milling is carried on, the chief centre being St. Louis, the highest point which river steamers can reach up the Mississippi.



STEEL WORKS, PITTSBURG

Nearly half the cattle of the United States are found in this region, so it is seen that this district is both agricultural and manufacturing.



NIAGARA

We must not pass further west without mentioning one of the sights of the world—the Niagara Falls, a vast waterfall, 165 feet high, situated between lakes Erie and Ontario. A huge volume of water whirls down a narrow channel and hurls itself over the edge of the cliff, dropping into the channel below with a continual thundering roar. In heavy winter weather the spray freezes in the air, and forms fantastic shapes while all the surroundings are covered with frost, and present a picture resembling fairyland.

To the westward we find the prairies, vast tracts of poor grassland which it is impossible to irrigate on account of the rivers cutting deep valleys. Vast ranches occupy most of this land, these areas not being fenced, but the animals are branded with the special sign of the ranch, so that when required they can be rounded up and recognised by the brand. These prairies stretch for hundreds of miles, and it is across these that the hardy pioneers of early days travelled in covered wagons, braving the dangers

of attack by the savage American Indians, or "redskins." From township to township sped the mail carriers, a prey to both Indian and white outlaw, and so with the stage coach, the only means of travel and communication between the east and the middle west.

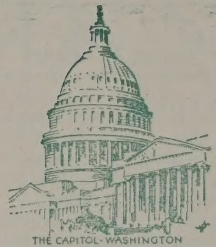
Conditions are such now, however, that travel from east to west is most luxurious, and the Indians are becoming less in number. The American Government has made the Indian keep to certain "reservations."

The costume of the "cow-puncher" is still similar to what it was years ago, high-heeled boots, "chaps," loose shirt, neckerchief and stetson hat. The "chaps" are coverings for the legs of either sheepskin or leather, and are worn to protect the legs, when riding among cattle, and also when among the coarse sagebush.

UNION SQUARE · SAN FRANCISCO

These men are very expert with the lasso or lariat, and competitions or "rodeos" are held in which the cowboys show their amazing skill in riding unbroken horses, lasso steers, and tie up the steers for branding, all single-handed.

In the west of this area we find the great Salt Lake and Salt Lake City, in the State of Utah, the Mormon settlement. It was to this fertile spot that



THE CAPITOL · WASHINGTON

Brigham Young led his followers, and here settled.

Arizona, a State south of Utah, is a bare, sparsely populated region of steppe-land, but one of the sights of the world is situated in it, namely, the Grand Canyon. Through this deep channel runs the Rio Colorado.

The bison was at one time very numerous on the plains of North America, but great inroads were made in their numbers both by Indians and white hunters. The American Government has now prohibited the killing of these animals as the species was in danger of dying out.

Crossing the immense barrier of the Rockies, we descend to the western seaboard of the United States, and meet in the south, in the State of California, a Mediterranean climate. Here we find produced all the products found in a Mediterranean region, while the air, light, and climate are excellent for making cinema pictures, the greatest centre of which industry is at Los Angeles.

San Francisco, the western terminus of the great trans-continental railway, is a great port of call for all the vessels of the east, and here we find a great many Chinese people who have immigrated before the restrictions brought into force by the American Government.

CANADA

HARVESTING WHEAT

THE Dominion of Canada lies to the north of the United States, the boundary being approximately the 49th degree of latitude.

A hundred years ago Canada was occupied by small numbers of American Indians who roamed the prairies hunting the buffalo. Settlers from England and France made their homes in the east round the St. Lawrence river. As is known, Canada originally belonged to the French, but we captured it from them. This explains the fact that French is spoken extensively in the eastern cities, and it will be noticed that many of the names on the map in this area are French.

On the western coast we meet the celebrated salmon-fishing industry. The salmon spends part of its life in the sea, but always returns to the rivers to spawn, so that large numbers move up the Frazer and other rivers and are caught in the nets. This has made possible the great salmon tinning trade carried on here.

In the more sheltered valleys of the southern part of British Columbia are orchards famous for their fruits—apples, pears, cherries, and plums, with peaches and grapes in the warmest parts.

The Yukon, celebrated in olden days when gold was found in the Klondike, is a cold barren land where life is very hard. Many miners in the early gold rush suffered intensely from the cold, and transport was so uncertain, that the prices of food and clothing soared to a tremendously high figure.

Running from east to west of Canada and broken only by the prairies, is forest land, and the production of lumber and wood pulp is one of Canada's great industries. The trees are felled and sent down timber slides, by horse or motor-power, to a suitable ledge above a river. Here the logs, which of course are stripped of the branches, are shot into the water where they float and form a great raft, and are floated down the river to the nearest saw-mills, usually driven by water power. The men handling these logs

LUMBER-QUEBEC PROVINCE

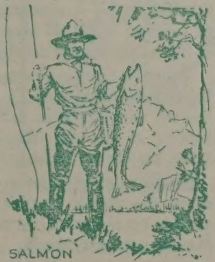
are unusually dexterous, as they can run along a floating log with the greatest ease.

The Rocky Mountains, cutting through Canada on the west, are a scene of indescribable grandeur, their snow-capped peaks rising high into the clear air, while the lower slopes are clothed in forests of fir and pine. Passes and defiles in this great chain of mountains make it possible to reach the east, and both the great railways make use of two of these passes, Kicking Horse and Yellowhead.

These mountains are the home of the wolf and the grizzly bear, both fearsome animals.

The cattle wander at large over the western prairies, and are tended in the same manner as in the United States.

West of the lakes are the great prairies of Canada, great flat lands given over to wheat growing in the eastern district, and cattle-rearing in the west, where the soil is not so good. The wheatlands are developing rapidly, and wheat and flour form the greatest export of Canada.


SALMON

The grain is not packed in bags, but is conveyed in bulk from the farm to the station, where it is raised by elevators into the loading shed, being then shot into the covered railway wagons down a chute. The train then travels to the port, where the wagons are run alongside the boats and the grain shot into the hold.

PLEASURE STEAMER - GREAT LAKES

Many large towns have sprung up in the wheat-growing area, notably Winnipeg, the centre, but there are many smaller towns on the prairie which are just a collection of wooden buildings.

The whole of the north of Canada is composed of grassy tundra and forest-land, where only a few Eskimo and hardy Indians live. On the shores of Hudson Bay, discovered by Henry Hudson, a trading centre was established by the famous Hudson Bay Company, trading largely in furs. This is still the main occupation of the inhabitants of this region, the trappers living in the wilderness for months, until they have sufficient skins to bring to the trading post. As the region is snow-covered for many months of the year, the usual method of travel is by dog-sledge, the trappers setting great store by their teams.

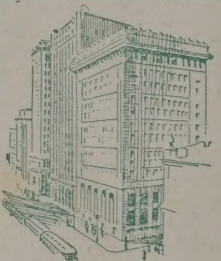
In this region are many French-Canadians and half-breeds.

This huge territory of the north-west is patrolled by that

magnificent band of men, the North-West Mounted Police. At the head of the St. Lawrence, we come to the Great Lakes, Ontario, Erie, Huron, Michigan, and Superior. It is between lakes Ontario and Erie that the Niagara Falls are situated. These lakes are of enormous size, and this fact is impressed on us by the storms that sometimes rage over them.

The manufactures of Canada are nearly all in the eastern area, Toronto being the chief city, while Ottawa, the capital, is the centre of the pulp and paper industry.

High up the river we come to Montreal from which radiate all the railway routes of Canada, in particular the great trans-continental lines, the Canadian Pacific Railway and the Canadian National, making it possible to travel all the way to Vancouver without changing. Montreal has many fine buildings and an extensive harbour, and is the fourth largest French-speaking city of the world.



TORONTO

For three or four months in the year the St. Lawrence is blocked with ice, making it impossible to use the ports of Quebec and Montreal, so that during this period the Atlantic ports of Halifax and St. John are used.

Quebec, the old walled city which was the centre of New France, is our port of embarkation for home. Perched high on the Heights of Abraham, and running down to the base of this crag, the city forms a wonderful picture when seen from the river, with a palatial hotel crowning the summit.

CHATEAU FRONTENAC-QUEBEC

The architecture of Quebec is typically French with some buildings of the 18th century still standing untouched.

Our journey from Quebec to Liverpool is both a relaxation and a holiday. The palatial transatlantic liners are fitted out at enormous cost to give the maximum of comfort, and if it were not for the sight of the expanse of heaving water all round, one would imagine oneself in a first-class hotel on shore.

To make the journey across the Atlantic from Canada to England takes only six days, and two full days out of the six are spent in sailing down the St. Lawrence, passing at last the island of Newfoundland, especially noted for the extensive cod fisheries on the southern shore.

So after our pleasant cruise, we at last sight land, sail down the North Channel into the Irish Sea, and after picking up our pilot, we steam majestically into the river Mersey, and disembark.

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